

# Beacon



# OBTA

An Association for Business Technology Educators

## Change . . . "It's a Good Thing"

Christy Culver, 2006 President



Change is constant! This is not a new concept, but I ask you how do you approach change? A few years ago the book, *Who Moved My Cheese?* authored by Spencer Johnson, M.D., focused on how individuals construe and apply change to one's situation which reflects the worth of the change. Without change we would not have learned to walk and talk . . .so change is a good thing. But it does place us outside our comfort zone. At the 2003 OBTA Conference in Toledo a session was presented on the *Fish!* philosophy as it applied to work/classroom issues such as retention and burnout. The session suggested various changes one could use to improve and enjoy the work at hand. In the winter *Beacon*, I referenced opportunities in which change can be a hidden, colossal opportunity. You are probably asking yourself where is she going with this? I would like you to reflect on how change can assist you.

We all know our daily schedules both in and out of the classroom. Some of us have the exact same schedule every day and some of us do not. Personally, my schedule changes every quarter and plus Monday/Wednesday and Tuesday/Thursday are different schedules. This is one reason I enjoy teaching at the post-secondary level. Accounting instructors know the tax laws change every year. Software instructors know Microsoft® Office 2007 will be a new look, but the operating system, Vista, will change the way businesses do business. Marketing instructors know generational influences are constantly changing the target market. These are all changes that may affect our curricula, but what about the every day changes?

Whether a small change or large change, you might be surprised by the result. For example, do you drive the same way to work each day? Change it up...try a new

route to and/or from work. How do you start class each day? Change it up . . . try a website of the day (see page 6 for suggestions). Catch a student or colleague "doing good" and recognize the good act with a simple a handwritten note or a verbal comment. Volunteer for a committee or other activity you have never tried before. I, too, have to force myself to step outside my comfort zone occasionally, but I am always surprised at the personal results.

Your fellow educators have provided teaching tips in this edition of the *Beacon*. Please share these tips with your fellow educators at your educational institution. Within one week of reading this article, I challenge you to strike up a conversation with another educator you don't usually speak with and ask them how they start class each day or what is the most effective teaching strategy they have used. Who knows what connection or change you might make!

In the words of Peter Francisco: "If you keep doing what you've always done, you'll keep getting what you've always got!" How is that working for you? Change it up!

## OBTA Teacher/Educator of the Year Award Nominations

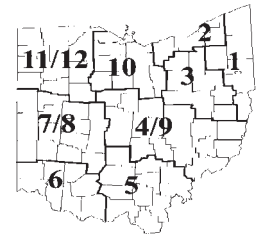
Nominations are now being accepted for OBTA Distinguished Service Awards. In addition to accepting nominations from each OBTA section, nominations may be submitted by any active OBTA member. This means you can nominate a colleague who might be in another section.

Contact Vicky Ryan at [vryan@daviscollege.edu](mailto:vryan@daviscollege.edu) for further information. You may also log on to the OBTA web site at [www.obta-ohio.org](http://www.obta-ohio.org) for the nomination forms. Nominations are due by July 15, 2006.

### OBTA MISSION

To make a positive impact on business education by providing professional development activities, research, publications, and networking opportunities.

# SECTIONS REPORTING IN . . .



## Section 1/2--Stephanie Sak

### Cleveland Area Business Teachers Association

CABTA met at Trinity High School on March 28, 2006. Cara Beard, computer teacher at Trinity, presented a dynamic hands-on program using *Ulead Media Studio Pro*. The participants of the workshop were lead through the steps on how to create a video. Along with Cara, Lee Frankinburger, Department Chair of Business/Information Technology, and Nichole Straight, computer teacher at Trinity, also gave of their time and effort in putting together elements needed for the workshop. Everyone who attended not only learned much about creating videos using up-to-date software, but also shared in the enthusiasm of the teachers at the school.

CABTA's Spring Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2006, at Mavis Winkle's Restaurant. Our speaker for the evening is R. J. Musat from Cuyahoga Community College. His topic is Ebay~Buying and Selling. More information can be found at [www.geocities.com/cabta](http://www.geocities.com/cabta).

If you would be interested in taking on a leadership role in Section 1 or Section 2/CABTA as a team member, please contact Stephanie at [CABTA@cox.net](mailto:CABTA@cox.net).

## Section 3--Rob O'Donnell

### Take a Relaxing OBTA Vacation!

On Wednesday, August 9, 2006, Section 3 will have a meeting **open to all members of OBTA**. This meeting is scheduled at Rob O'Donnell's Atwood Lake home.

The newly remodeled Atwood Lake is a resort--a vacation spot for people in Ohio and surrounding states. Rob hopes many will attend. The center has hotel rooms available for \$99 a night, if you are interested in spending the night. Rob has a boat and access to a private beach. There are two golf courses at Atwood Lake, which are absolutely beautiful, five lighted tennis courts, one indoor and one outdoor pool, and many walking trails. There is much to do at Atwood Lake. Check out the beautiful Atwood Lake region at <http://www.atwoodlakeresort.com/>.

Discussion topics at the meeting are: 1) Relaxing techniques for a stressful life; 2) Legislation update for Business Education; and 3) Success stories of promoting business education programs at the high school and post-secondary levels. These topics will be discussed in a two hour session, on the beach, and then on to the boat.

If you plan to attend and would like to stay at the lodge or another nearby hotel, you will be responsible for making those reservations. If you are interested in 'vacationing with

OBTA', please email Rob at [smiley63@adelphia.net](mailto:smiley63@adelphia.net). He will make sure you are kept up to date with the plans.

Don't miss out on this special, relaxing experience just before school starts. Contact Rob today.

## Section 4/9--OPEN

Contact OBTA Professional Development Chair, Heather Phillips ([heather.phillips@uc.edu](mailto:heather.phillips@uc.edu)) if you are interested in filling the section representative position.

## Section 5--OPEN

Contact OBTA Professional Development Chair, Heather Phillips ([heather.phillips@uc.edu](mailto:heather.phillips@uc.edu)) if you are interested in filling the section representative position.

## Section 6--SWOBTA--Debra Howard

The SWOBTA Spring Conference was held on Thursday, May 4, at Cincinnati State. There were two sessions presented at the conference. Barb Tietsort, Professor, Raymond Walters College, presented a session on e-Portfolios. Matt Gambino, VP of Technology, Thomson Learning, presented a session on the newest version of M. S. Office.

In addition to the two sessions, the agenda included: nominations for distinguished service awards and nominations for SWOBTA officers. Following the meeting, an informal dinner was held at a local restaurant.

Contact information: [Debra.Howard@uc.edu](mailto:Debra.Howard@uc.edu).

## Section 7/8--Roger and Vicki Fulk

Contact information: H. Roger or Vicki Fulk, 2145, Westminster Court, Sidney, OH 45365, 937-492-9481. Roger may also be contacted at Wright State University - Lake Campus, 7600 State Route 703 Celina, OH 45822-2952, 800-237-1477, Ext. 8337 (In Ohio), 419-586-0337 (Direct and Outside of Ohio), 419-586-0368 (fax), or [roger.fulk@wright.edu](mailto:roger.fulk@wright.edu).

Vicki's school information is Sidney High School, 1215 Campbell Road, Sidney, OH 45365, 937-497-2238 or [fulkv@sidney.k12.oh.us](mailto:fulkv@sidney.k12.oh.us).

## Section 10--OPEN

Contact OBTA Professional Development Chair, Heather Phillips ([heather.phillips@uc.edu](mailto:heather.phillips@uc.edu)) if you are interested in filling the section representative position.

(Sections Reporting In . . . continued on page 3)

# Career-Technical Education Update

Submitted by Rick Mangini, Assistant Director

## Career-Technical and Adult Education, Ohio Department of Education

Over the last six weeks, there have been three very successful major business and marketing related activities that have taken place. The February Ohio Business and Marketing Conclave was attended by more teachers than ever before. The program was outstanding, and the evaluations were very positive. The Conclave will be in Columbus next year on the last weekend in February.

In March, the State Conferences for Business Professionals of America and DECA went very smoothly. I truly believe that these conferences are packaged in a way that provides enormous benefits to students.

These major events do not just happen, but are the result of a great deal of work and involvement from many people. A sincere thanks to all who participated in and/or worked with any of these events. Without the active and enthusiastic involvement of teachers and local administrators, these activities would not provide the benefits that they do.

The next major activity was the Ohio itWORKS Information Technology Conference on April 25. Many of you attended that one.

You have also been sent information regarding work being done to build

the Career Field technical Content Standards for Business and Administrative Services, Finance and Marketing. We need the involvement of your business partners to serve on validation panels during the month of May. Appreciation to those of you who have already provided names or assistance. If you have business partners who you want to get involved, please contact me ASAP. Our next step will be to recruit teachers to participate in the project for late next summer or fall.

Wishing you the best for the remainder of this school year.

## Ohio Business Week Extends Application Deadline

*Enrollment open to business-minded high school students*

Ohio Business Week (OBW), Ohio's premier business experience for students, is extending its application deadline to May 30. An annual weeklong program, OBW immerses high school freshmen, sophomores, and juniors in the American free enterprise system.

Hosted at The University of Findlay July 9-15 and at Youngstown State University July 23-29, the program brings a diverse group of students and established members of the business community together to translate textbook business principles into "real world" business practices.

Funded, implemented, and evaluated by Ohio business people since 1989, OBW offers students a professional development experience that complements what students learn inside the classroom. "Students emerge from OBW with the skills and experience they need to compete in the global marketplace," said Nancy Whetstone, executive director of the Ohio Business Week Foundation.

"Each student accepted to OBW receives a \$450 scholarship from a business, civic organization, foundation, or individual to attend the program," explained Whetstone. Support from the private sector enables the Foundation to offer OBW at a fraction of the cost of similar summer programs.

Applications may be requested via the Foundation's toll free number (888) 377-7414 or downloaded from the OBW Web site at [www.ohiobusinessweek.org](http://www.ohiobusinessweek.org). Students may also apply online. Applications should include a personal reference and a short essay. All applications must be postmarked no later than May 30.

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## SECTIONS REPORTING IN . . .continued on page 2)

### Section 11/12--OPEN

Contact OBTA Professional Development Chair, Heather Phillips ([heather.phillips@uc.edu](mailto:heather.phillips@uc.edu)) if you are interested in filling the section representative position.

## CALLING ALL SECTION 10, 11, & 12 MEMBERS . . .

NWOBTA

(Section 11/12 inviting Section 10)

Tuesday, June 6, 2006

3:30 p.m.

Owens College--Findlay Campus  
Tour Campus

Learn more about "What You're  
Saying With Your Body Language"

For more information, contact

Darla Johannsen at

[darla\\_johannsen@owens.edu](mailto:darla_johannsen@owens.edu) or

Vicky Ryan at

[vryan@daviscollege.edu](mailto:vryan@daviscollege.edu)

## 79th Annual OBTA 2006 Akron/Cleveland

### Professional Development Conference



Join us for the 79<sup>th</sup> Annual OBTA 2006 Akron/Cleveland Professional Development Conference. The Akron/Cleveland planning team is busy making preparations for **Business, Technology, and All That Jazz**. The party will start on **Thursday, October 19**, and won't stop until **Friday, October 20, 2006!**

The **Cleveland Marriott East** will serve as our dance floor as we dance our way into invigorating, thought-provoking training sessions. The hotel is conveniently located just off I-271, close to Legacy Village, a shopping and dining complex, and just a short drive away is downtown Cleveland, home of the famous Rock-N-Roll Hall of Fame, the Hard Rock Café and the House of Blues!

Dust off your dancing shoes and join your colleagues as we learn new steps to waltz our students into the most innovative, ground-breaking teaching ideas and practices of the 21st century. If you like to have a good time and want to learn something new, this conference is for you!

Do you have something you would like to present and can't wait to be a dance partner? Contact Shunda Wright, conference chairperson, with your presentation topic at (440) 786-3529 (school), (330) 665-1452 (home), or e-mail [shwright@bedford.k12.oh.us](mailto:shwright@bedford.k12.oh.us).

#### ***North Central Business Education Association***

NCBEA will be publishing ***Creative Activities for YOU in YOUR Classroom--2006-2007--Business Education Classroom Activities Created by Teachers for Teachers!***, and would like **you** to submit activities.

Please submit activities using the template obtained from Sharon Fisher-Larson at [satblf@aol.com](mailto:satblf@aol.com) and align them with the current NBEA Standards Categories. Submissions may be made by sending a hard copy with accompanying file in Word on disk or CD to Sharon Fisher-Larson at 3627 Briar Crest Drive, Janesville, WI 53546, or by sending an e-mail attachment of a Word file to [satblf@aol.com](mailto:satblf@aol.com).

Deadline for submission is May 15, 2006



#### Membership

Log on to [www.nbea.org](http://www.nbea.org) for current membership form and a list of benefits. Benefits include membership in NCBEA.

#### NCBEA Conference

NCBEA Conference, November 1-3, 2006, in Springfield, IL. First time attendees to the conference can apply for a stipend. For more information on the conference or a stipend application, visit [www.ncbea.net](http://www.ncbea.net).

Call for presentations are now being accepted. Please contact Mrs. Chris Blackburn at [firstvp@ibe.org](mailto:firstvp@ibe.org), [cblackburn@mchs.net](mailto:cblackburn@mchs.net), or 815-467-2140 ext.159, or Cathy Carruthers at [ccarruth@lc.edu](mailto:ccarruth@lc.edu) for more information.

#### NBEA Conference

Start planning now to attend the NBEA Conference in the Spring of 2007. The conference will be held in New York City. First time attendees to the conference can apply for a stipend. Stipend applications are available at the NBEA website or will be published in the fall issue of the Business Education Forum. Applications have a December 2006 deadline.

## Dr. Guthrie Honored as Distinguished Alumni



On May 6, 2006, Dr. Mearl Guthrie was honored as one of the 100 Distinguished Alumni of the College of Education and Human Development from the University of Minnesota.

Dr. Guthrie has devoted his life to teaching and service. He taught business education at Bowling Green State University from 1954 until retirement, serving as Chairman of the Department of Business Education from 1957 to 1985. During his tenure, the Department experienced tremendous growth, Delta Pi Epsilon and Phi Beta Lambda were organized, he authored several textbooks, published over sixty professional articles, and negotiated \$225,000 annual grants.

In 1965 Dr. Guthrie helped establish a program in business administration at the College of the Virgin Islands. Summer Visiting Professorships were in Montana, Utah, Washington, Colorado, and New York.

Passionate about consumer education and teacher education, his "Guthrieisms" impacted former students. "Money spent for credit will not buy ice cream cones" or "grading papers will not make you a teacher any more than grading eggs will make you a hen" are remembered well. *Congratulations Dr. Guthrie!*

## BIAC Commendation Honorees

The OBTA Business and Industry Advisory Council is pleased to announce 2006 recipients of the Business and Industry Achievement Commendation.

Honoree	School/College	OBTA Member
Alyssa Strand	Strongsville High School	Lin Hall
Courtney Cash	D. Russel Lee Career Center	Pamela Shelley
Jason Fleenor	Watkins Memorial High	Dave Cater
Anna Welch	C-TEC of Licking County	Jane Fisher
Matisse LaFleur	Avon Lake High	Donna Birkby
Kivan Pennington	Maple Heights High	Toni Bednarik
Shannon Jenike-Godshalk	Mariemont High	Debra Baas

These graduates received an Achievement Commendation certificate, a letter of recognition, and a small gift from OBTA's Business and Industry Advisory Council.

Any OBTA member can nominate a graduating high school senior or a post-secondary student who completes a program in Business Education for the Business and Industry Achievement Commendation. OBTA members are encouraged to take advantage of this simple and easy opportunity to recognize an outstanding student and your school.

To nominate a student, please provide your name, the student's name, the school address/city/zip, and the date needed. Contact Donna Birkby, BIAC Chair, 570 Marbrook Lane, Avon Lake, OH 44012, or via e-mail at [donnabirkby@yahoo.com](mailto:donnabirkby@yahoo.com).

### Additional Awards Now Available For Purchase Digital Robotic Calculators

Graduating students nominated for the BIAC recognition receive a letter acknowledging their merits and a digital robotic calculator. Some Ohio teachers were so excited about the calculators that they wanted to purchase some to use for personal student recognition, to give to administrators, or as a thank you gift for advisory committee members. As a result of this request, OBTA has ordered extra calculators available for purchase by Ohio teachers.

By pressing the button on the front of the calculator, the calculator opens slowly to display a digital screen and the calculator. The calculator has soft touch keys, a clock displaying hour/minutes/seconds, a travel alarm with eight wakeup sounds, a calendar pre-programmed until 2099, a world timer with 16 time zones, and a count-down timer.



The cost of the calculator for members of the organization is \$8 each, which includes shipping anywhere in Ohio. Send your personal requests with check, payable to OBTA, to Marilyn Grismere, PO Box 97, Miami, OH 45147 or contact Marilyn at [mgrismere@cinci.rr.com](mailto:mgrismere@cinci.rr.com).

Introducing . . .

## Cincinnati BIAC Member Frank Cruise

Frank Cruise has a BS in Economics from Boston College and an MBA in Marketing from Babson College.



A commissioned officer in the United States Marine Corps, Frank attained the rank of Captain and served a total of twelve years in both active and reserve duty.

Until retirement, Frank was Vice President of Sales and Marketing with the Stanley Works headquartered in New Britain, Connecticut. He relocated to Cincinnati to start a new travel agency, which he sold after nine successful years, to Carlson Wagonlit Travel.

Currently, Frank is an Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Business and Economics Department at the University of Cincinnati--Raymond Walters College.

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**KNOCK KNOCK**

Do you hear it?

Nominate a deserving student for the OBTA scholarship



Application Deadline  
August 31, 2006

Contact: Craig Bowman, 210 Hawthorn Blvd., Delaware, OH 43015, or by email at [cbbluff@yahoo.com](mailto:cbbluff@yahoo.com).

# Educational Resources Abound on the Web

Have you visited [www.merlot.org](http://www.merlot.org)? Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching (MERLOT) is a site for faculty to obtain and share teaching resources. Need a Cash Flow Statement Project or how about Internet Exercises in Marketing? What about Arts, Humanities, Social Science, Mathematics and Statistics, Science and Technology, and Education? This would be a good site to discuss with that colleague I challenged you to speak with! *Christy Culver, Marion Technical College*



## Website of the Day

How do you start class each day? Do you sometimes have trouble getting students to be on time to class? What about offering a website of the day within the first 3 minutes of class? Get the students curious to what site you will show at the next class. Surf's Up! The following is a list of interesting websites:

<a href="http://www.protopage.com">www.protopage.com</a>	Allows for personalized news, sticky notes, photos, email, weather, and bookmarks all on one page. Great for the multi tasker.
<a href="http://www.feedroom.com">www.feedroom.com</a>	FeedRoom provides video clips of current news topics and corporate information.
<a href="http://www.video.google.com">www.video.google.com</a>	The google craze has influenced the organization and availability of information, but have you ever googled your telephone number at google.com? Need some videos for a topic of discussion or a satellite picture? Check it out.
<a href="http://www.earth.google.com">www.earth.google.com</a>	
<a href="http://www.myvirtualmodel.com">www.myvirtualmodel.com</a>	What if your marketing class is in a dilemma because they are not sure how customers would view their clothing product in California? Check the virtual model that is being used by several clothing companies to allow customers to view how an outfit might look on their body type before purchasing.
<a href="http://www.earthcam.com">www.earthcam.com</a>	Want to see what is happening in Times Square, Hawaii, or Poland?
<a href="http://www.keirsey.com">www.keirsey.com</a>	Click and take the Keirsey Temperament test. Great for discussion personalities and getting along with coworkers.
<a href="http://www.copykat.com">www.copykat.com</a>	Need the recipe for the Red Lobster's Cheddar Bay Biscuits, or how about Mrs. Fields Blue Ribbon Chocolate Chip Cookies? Recipes of all types are available.
<a href="http://www.zillow.com">www.zillow.com</a>	This real estate website is still in beta format, but wow, what information you can find. Want to know what houses are selling for in your neighborhood? How about what the value of your property is?
<a href="http://www.dreamhomesource.com">www.dreamhomesource.com</a>	Search over 15,000 house plans. Great way to lead into budgeting or project management.

As with all websites, the content may not be suitable for all viewers. Please make sure your preview before demonstrating in the classroom. Change it up! *Christy Culver, Marion Technical College*

## Personal Finance Useful Websites

<a href="http://simustock.com">http://simustock.com</a>	Exchange simulation and information, which has an easy to use stock market game.
<a href="http://www.teeninvestor.com">http://www.teeninvestor.com</a>	Teaches young people how to become life-long investors.
<a href="http://www.brasscu.com">http://www.brasscu.com</a>	Money management for young adults, and how it affects their lives.
<a href="http://www.investopedia.com/">http://www.investopedia.com/</a>	Tutorials, articles, dictionary...learn more about the confusing world of finance
<a href="http://nefe.org/hspfportal/includes/main/link/">http://nefe.org/hspfportal/includes/main/link/</a>	Interactive game regarding the 411 on money management.
<a href="http://finance.yahoo.com/">http://finance.yahoo.com/</a>	
<a href="http://moneycentral.msn.com">http://moneycentral.msn.com</a>	
<a href="http://www.businessweek.com/investor/index.html">http://www.businessweek.com/investor/index.html</a>	

*Donna Birkby, Eastview Elementary*

# Table Tents with PowerPoint

As I age, I realize that it is harder and harder to quickly learn the names of the students. So to help me cheat, I ask them to create a table tent with their names as a PowerPoint activity early in the quarter. It is also a quick introduction to PowerPoint. I ask them to save the table tent in their textbook after each class and have them put it out during the following class. Here is the method I use to guide the students through the process of making the name table tent.

1. Write or draw, or hold up the sample of the name tag. The name tag will have the student's name on both sides, with possibly a clip art graphic on one side. The objectives used in this exercise focus on creating and manipulating text. The tag will be printed, folded, and put on the computers so that it is easier to call people by name. This activity should take about 20-30 minutes and will warm them up on how to take directions from you during the hands-on demonstration.

2. Hands-on demonstration with the students mimicking your steps. Open PowerPoint. Start button, Programs, PowerPoint. Review the parts of the screen: title bar, menu bar, standard tool bar, formatting tool bar, slide work area, views.

3. Key the first and last name in the title and subtitle box. The name must be keyed twice, once for each side of the name tag. Using the boxes provided on the slide design template, the two will be close together on the slide.

4. Change the font and size for both names. Demonstrate highlighting the text and changing the font using the formatting tool bar and the menu option of Format, Font. When complete, both should be in the same font and size. Remind the students that type that is all in the same case is very hard to read. It is much easier to read from a distance if it is in upper and lower case. It doesn't matter whether it is a slide or a name tag. Also stress that decorative fonts are often very hard to read. Cover how bold, underscore, and italics are applied using the format tool bar. Also note that when using the Format, Font menu option, you can add additional things to the font such as embossing and a shadow. Also use the Undo button when a mistake has been made so they can see how to correct something.

5. Rotate one of the names 180°. Double click on the box surrounding the text you wish to rotate. The Format Auto Shape dialog box will appear. Using the Tab for Size, change the rotation to 180. Press the Enter key.

6. Add a clipart graphic to one side of the slide. Insert menu, Picture, ClipArt. In the task pane on the right, key search words and perform a search. Select an appropriate

graphic. Remind students that we print in black and white, so they should not get too attached to the color. Move the graphic or text containers around a bit to make things work together.

7. Save the name tag to the Jump Drive using Save As. Explain the Save As screen, calling attention to the place where the presentation will be stored. Give it an appropriate name. You might mention that if they forget to bring the name tag back to class, they will have this file to print out another one at any time they need it.

8. Print the document. Use the File, Print menu method, calling attention to the options that are available. As the name tags come off of the printer, distribute to the students and show them the method of folding so that they will sit on top of their CPU. Folding is easiest if you fold the paper in half lengthwise first, then fold up about one inch on the opposite edge. Then open the paper and fold one side back in on the one inch mark. It should stand without much prompting. You could also put a paper clip on the bottom to hold the edges together on top of each other to give it some weight.

9. Close the document.

*Barbara Stover, Marion Technical College*

## Helpful Tips . . .

TIP: Microsoft Online has its own website with templates, clip art, updates, themes, etc. Each month a different software is featured, although previous information is also archived. This is a great site to offer to students needing something to do or an extra challenge. The URL: <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/default.aspx>

TIP: "Error Messages" Have you ever wondered what to do when a technical person is not available and you get a dialog box indicating an error? Typically there is a long error number in the dialog box too. Help is here! Simply copy/paste that error number into a search engine for information on what the error is and how others have handled the situation.

*Darla Johannsen  
Owens Community College*

# Accelerating to Accuracy with Keyboarding

As a motivation to increase speed and accuracy in my keyboarding classes, I give the students one-minute speed and accuracy drills. The drills begin at 20 words per minute; the student must key the entire paragraph in one minute with 100 percent accuracy. Once the 20 words per minute challenge is accomplished, the student moves on to 25, then to 30, etc. The top speed is 120 words per minute.

On the wall is mounted a race track with various speed points. The highway is named The Cory King Highway after one of my top students from a few years ago who obtained the highest speed to date. A car with each student's name is placed at the beginning point. As the student reaches each new speed, the car is advanced to a new location. Also, as the student passes a new speed, the student can select an item from the Pit Stop--a jar resembling a gas tank--filled with candies and other treats. As the speed gets higher and more difficult, the prizes get larger--fun-size candy bars, regular size candy bars, large size candy bars, etc. Watching for sales after special holidays is a good way to stock up on candy.

This serves as a great motivator for students to practice speed and accuracy in keyboarding. Students strive to get to move their cars forward, while being rewarding for their work. **Vicki Fulk, Sidney High School**



## Check Them Out . . .

<http://www.teachersfirst.com/web.htm>

<http://www.pbs.org/teachersource/teachtech/tutorials.shtm>

[www.forteachersonly.com](http://www.forteachersonly.com)

The one class kids really need  
[http://www.nydailynews.com/news/ideas\\_opinions/story/356965p-304226c.html](http://www.nydailynews.com/news/ideas_opinions/story/356965p-304226c.html)

Kids know computers, but can they type?  
<http://www.thejournalnews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20051003/NEWS08/510030320/1024>

Case Studies of global companies  
<http://www.tt100.biz>

**Donna Birkby**  
*Eastview Elementary*

## A Unique Computer Project

For one of the computer courses I teach, instead of the traditional "Final Exam," I have the students bring in a member of their family or a friend needing instruction in basic computer skills. The students plan a small lesson to be used with their person to be taught one-on-one. Projects can range from using e-mail, searching the Internet, making a greeting card, creating a spreadsheet, utilizing basic word processing skills and shortcuts, using PowerPoint, creating a t-shirt transfer, as well as other items covered during the course.

Students prepare "Computer Whiz" certificates to be signed and presented to their "students" at the conclusion of

the session. The class session can be from one hour to two hours. We always follow the session up with refreshments for everyone.

When I first began this project, I used "Senior Citizens"; however, students wanted to bring siblings, friends, parents, etc. I have since allowed the students to bring one person--no age requirement. It is



important that each student has only one person to teach--that way the one-on-one method of teaching is implemented.

We have received great feedback from this project. The students get to refresh and to retain what they have learned in the class, while having the opportunity of sharing their skills with others, passing along the need for business education. Pride in their accomplishments is evident as they share with others.

This activity can also be used for an open house, recruitment project, or as a service project for student organizations. **H. Roger Fulk, Wright State University Lake Campus**

## Certification/Licensure Dictionary

The following link will take you to the Certification/Licensure Dictionary. [http://www.ode.state.oh.us/Teaching-Profession/Teacher/Certification\\_Licensure/cld.asp](http://www.ode.state.oh.us/Teaching-Profession/Teacher/Certification_Licensure/cld.asp). When you get to this link, click on Business (Career Technical) or Business (Non-Career Technical).

This document tells the courses that can be taught and the certifications/licensures that are qualified to teach each course. Included is a column for certifications called Certification Grade Level and for licenses called License Grade Level. When this is blank, it means that the certificate/license is ungraded--the person holding the teaching certificate/license is able to teach any grade level (K-adult). When it is filled, it means that the person holding the teaching certificate/license is able to teach the grades indicated.

## "Company"--What Is It?

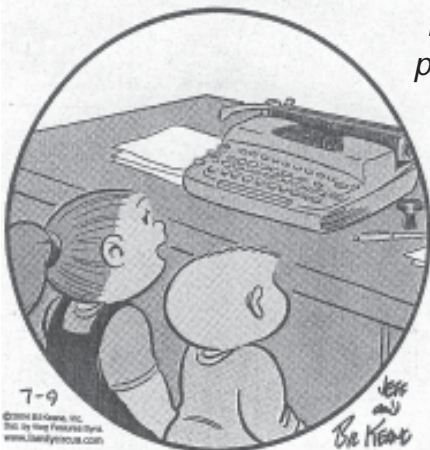
Renee Pay, a business education teacher from Sandy, Utah, developed the "company" 20+ years ago; since its inception she has seen progressive success and has shared this method with hundreds of teachers.

The "company" is a teaching method that is designed to afford students the opportunity to gain the basic skills necessary for employment in an office or business-related environment. However, the "company" can be adapted to any subject area. In "company" a student has **choices** in his or her learning, and are taught **real-world accountability**; and all learning is **competency-based**.

If you have students who complain about being bored with the traditional way of learning, then "company" is a great tool to get them excited about learning. In "company" students become employees and teachers become directors. Employees can choose from various career majors. Directors teach **careers** not courses. Employees no longer have to "wait to learn" because they can exempt any learning or application module if they have previous knowledge by successfully passing an exemption test. All learning is **validated** with competency certificates. The ultimate goal of "company" is to empower employees to take **ownership** of his or her own progress. An **effective, conscientious employee** will find it easy to earn an "A" grade in "company".

Contact Shunda Wright at [shwright@bedford.k12.oh.us](mailto:shwright@bedford.k12.oh.us) for further information and to hear about her successes with "company". *Shunda Wright, Bedford High School*

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"It's Grandma's word processor,"

## DISABLE BACKSPACE KEY

The following directions are to disable the backspace key on any keyboard.

Go to:

- My Computer
- Control Panel
- Click on Keyboard
- Key Settings
- Back

- Edit
- Disable

*Donna Birkby*  
*Eastview Elementary*



## CONGRATULATIONS!!

*Dr. Rose Marie Kuceyeski*

NBEA 2006  
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## Journal Submissions Due July 1

**The Ohio Business Technology Educator**--OBTA's official refereed journal committed to professional excellence. It is published annually when submissions are adequate. Manuscripts vary in length, with 2,500 words being an approximate guideline. Submission deadline for the October 2006 journal is July 1, 2006. Contact Dr. Ken Martin, University of Cincinnati, 505TC ML02, Cincinnati, OH 45221, phone 513-556-3592, or e-mail [ken.martin@uc.edu](mailto:ken.martin@uc.edu). Please include KEN in the subject line.

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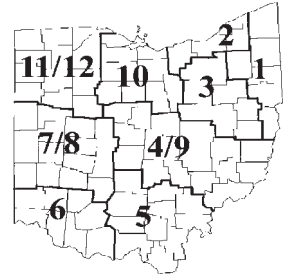
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